

Message Text

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, SNAR, SENV, MX, US

SUBJECT: MEETING OF SOCIAL WORKING GROUP OF U.S.-MEXICO

CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM

1. THE SOCIAL WORKING GROUP OF THE CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM MET AT THE MEXICAN FOREIGN SECRETARIAT (SRE) ON MAY 4 FROM APPROXIMATELY 11:30 A.M. TO ABOUT 1:00 P.M. THE MEETING, WHICH WAS CORDIAL AND CONSTRUCTIVE, RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS OR PENDING ACTIONS:

(A) UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS--(1) BOTH SIDES AGREED TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND WHERE POSSIBLE COORDINATE RESEARCH. GOM NAMED SECRETARIAT OF LABOR AS ITS OFFICIAL CHANNEL; USG AGREED TO INFORM GOM CONCERNING WHICH ORGANIZATION OR AGENCY WOULD SERVE AS U.S. COUNTERPART TO SECLAB. (2) BOTH SIDES AGREED ON USEFULNESS OF DEVELOPING INFORMATION CLEARING HOUSE; USG TO PROVIDE GOM WITH ITS SUGGESTIONS

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IN THIS REGARD. (3) MEASURES AGAINST TRAFFICKERS IN ALIENS AND DOCUMENT FORGERS: BOTH SIDES AGREED TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE AND U.S. AG'S OFFICE/INS TO DISCUSS CLOSER COOPERATION IN COMBATTING DOCUMENT FORGERS AND ORGANIZED MIGRATION TRAFFICKERS.

(B) BORDER AFFAIRS--(1) BOTH SIDES AGREED TO ESTABLISH NEW BORDER SUBGROUP AND EXCHANGE VIEWS ON AN AGENDA. USG TO INFORM GOM RE COMPOSITION OF U.S. PARTICIPANTS AND U.S. SUGGESTIONS RE APPROPRIATE AGENDA. (2) U.S. SHOULD SEEK ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM GOM'S SECRETARIAT OF PROGRAMMING AND BUDGET (NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BORDER AND FREE ZONES) RE PLAN TO ESTABLISH INFORMATION CENTER ON BORDER AFFAIRS WHICH COULD SUPPLY DATA USEFUL FOR BOTH COUNTRIES. (3) U.S. SHOULD SEEK GOM COMMENTS REGARDING EPA'S DRAFT AGREEMENT ON EXCHANGING INFORMATION AND DATA ON COMMON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS. (C) CREATION OF NARCOTICS SUBGROUP--USG TO OBTAIN NAMES OF MEXICAN PARTICIPANTS IN NARCOTICS SUBGROUP AND GOM SUGGESTIONS RE DATE FOR ORGANIZATION'S FIRST MEETING.

(D) JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE TREATY--USG TO PROVIDE GOM WITH DRAFT TREATY ON JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY ACCOUNT OF THE DISCUSSIONS. BECAUSE OF THE RIGOROUS TIME SCHEDULE, THE TEXT OF THIS SUMMARY WAS NOT CLEARED BY THE U.S. PARTICIPANTS PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE FROM MEXICO CITY. THE DISCUSSION FOLLOWED THE AGENDA, AND ALL ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WERE COVERED.

3. AGENDA ITEM (A), DISCUSSION OF FURTHER COOPERATION IN DEALING WITH TRANS-BORDER MIGRATION. AFTER OPENING RELIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MARKS BY UNDERSECRETARY ROSENZWEIG, WHO PRESIDED AS MEXICAN CHAIRMAN, MR. NIMETZ SPEAKING FOR THE U.S. DELEGATION DELIVERED PRESENTATION IN PAGES 1 THROUGH 6 OF STATEMENT IN BRIEFING BOOK. AT CONCLUSION OF MR. NIMETZ' REMARKS, MR. EGAN NOTED THAT, WHILE THERE WERE SOME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND MEXICO DURING DISCUSSION OF THE UNDOCUMENTED WORKER QUESTION AT LAST AUGUST'S MEETING OF THE SOCIAL WORKING GROUP, THERE WAS AGREEMENT ON NEED FOR GREATER COOPERATION IN DEALING WITH SMUGGLERS AND DOCUMENTATION FORGERS. HE CHARACTERIZED SUBSEQUENT U.S.-MEXICAN COOPERATION AS GENERALLY GOOD BUT SAID THAT IT HAS NOT BEEN UNIFORMLY SO IN TERMS OF TIME AND PLACE. AS AN EXAMPLE, HE CITED THE SITUATION IN TIJUANA-CHULA VISTA AREA WHERE COOPERATION WAS VERY GOOD UNTIL SIX MONTHS AGO BUT RECENTLY THE MEXICAN SIDE HAS BEEN LESS ACTIVE IN PROSECUTING SMUGGLERS. HE REPORTED THAT THE INS IS SETTING UP A SPECIAL OFFICE TO DEAL WITH SMUGGLERS OF UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THIS OFFICE WOULD RECEIVE ACTIVE MEXICAN COOPERATION, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE AT ALL LEVELS. HE ALSO NOTED THAT INS IS IN THE PROCESS OF CREATING A FRAUDULENT-DOCUMENT INVENTORY WHICH COULD

ASSIST BOTH GOVERNMENTS, AND EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THE GOM
WOULD COOPERATE IN THIS EFFORT BY PROVIDING EXAMPLES OF
BOTH LEGAL AND FRAUDULENT DOCUMENTS. TOWARD END OF MEET-
ING IT WAS AGREED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEXICAN
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE WOULD MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL AND INS TO EXAMINE HOW BOTH
COUNTRIES MIGHT COOPERATE MORE CLOSELY IN COMBATTING
TRAFFICKERS IN ALIENS AND DOCUMENT FORGERS.

4. IN RESPONSE TO MR. NIMETZ, UNDERSECRETARY ROSENZWEIG
EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH THE NEED FOR A MORE OBJECTIVE
STUDY OF THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS RELATED TO
UNDOCUMENTED MIGRATION. HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF
EXAMINING THIS ISSUE IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT OF RELATIONS
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BETWEEN THE U.S. AND MEXICO AND COMMENTED THAT ALTHOUGH
THERE HAS BEEN INCREASING FOCUS ON THE PUSH FACTORS RE-

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LATED TO MIGRATION--PARTICULARLY UNEMPLOYMENT--IT IS ALSO

IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE REAL DEMAND FOR MEXICAN LABOR IN THE U.S. IS A FACTOR VERY RELEVANT TO THE MIGRATORY PHENOMENON. HE THEN INVITED COMMENTS FROM OTHER MEXICAN REPRESENTATIVES (TEAM CONSISTED OF SRA. MARIA EMILIA TELLEZ, UNDERSECRETARY, SRE; DR. HUMBERTO ROMERO ALVAREZ, UNDERSECRETARY FOR IMPROVEMENT OF ATMOSPHERE, SECRETARIAT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE; LIC. SAMUEL ALVA LEYVA, DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL; DRA. AIDA GONZALEZ, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, SECRETARIAT OF LABOR; DR. GUIDO BELSASSO, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF LABOR STUDIES, SECRETARIAT OF LABOR; LIC. ROSA MARIA VILLARELO, CHIEF OF SPECIAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT OF LABOR; LIC. SALVADOR CAMPOS-ICARDO, MINISTER-COUNSELOR, MEXICAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON; LIC. CLEMENTE RUIZ DURAN, ADVISER TO THE SECRETARY OF PROGRAMMING AND BUDGET; AND ING. LUIS CABRERA, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF BOUNDARIES AND WATERS, SRE.

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5. DRA. AIDA GONZALEZ EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE MEXICO ATTACHES TO APPROACHING THE MIGRATION ISSUE WITHIN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT OF U.S.-MEXICAN RELATIONS, STRESSING THAT MEXICO WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN FURTHER ELABORATION OF WHAT MR. NIMETZ HAD IN MIND WHEN HE REFERRED TO POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE QUESTION SUCH AS GREATER MEXICAN ACCESS TO U.S. MARKETS, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM INTERNATIONAL LENDING INSTITUTIONS, ETC. AS PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO COMMENTED TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE IN JANUARY, THIS IS A DIFFICULT ISSUE TO RESOLVE WITHOUT LOOKING AT IT IN THE CONTEXT OF COLLATERAL MEASURES, SHE OBSERVED.

6. DR. GUIDO BELSASSO SAID HE WAS MOST INTERESTED IN MR. NIMETZ' COMMENTS ABOUT NEED TO INCREASE COOPERATION AMONG QUALIFIED U.S. AND MEXICAN EXPERTS, THEREBY PROMOTING GREATER EXCHANGE OF RESEARCH, AS WELL AS TO HIS REFERENCES TO STATE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT FOR A TEXAS UNIVERSITY STUDY OF PUSH FACTORS. HE NOTED THE PROLIFERATION OF ACADEMIC AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN THIS QUESTION SEEMS TO BE INCREASING, ADDING THAT A NUMBER OF THESE, INCLUDING ONE HEADED BY DR. STANLEY ROSS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, HAS APPROACHED THE GOM PROPOSING COOPERATION. DR. BELSASSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THESE DIVERSE AND UNCOORDINATED PROGRAMS MIGHT LEAD TO AN EXCESSIVE DISPERSION OF EFFORT.

7. MR. NIMETZ RESPONDED BY SUGGESTING THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO DEVELOP A MECHANISM WHICH COULD SERVE AS AN INFORMATION CLEARING HOUSE WITH REGARD TO BOTH U.S. AND MEXICAN RESEARCH ON MIGRATION. DR. BELSASSO AGREED BUT HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE NIMETZ PROPOSAL FOR SOME

SORT OF NEW ORGANIZATION TO "MONITOR" RESEARCH ON BOTH
THE U.S. AND MEXICAN SIDES WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE IF BY
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"MONITOR" THE U.S. HAD IN MIND SUPERVISING MEXICAN RE-
SEARCH. HE ALSO CLARIFIED THAT THE CURRENT MEXICAN
RESEARCH EFFORT MENTIONED BY MR. NIMETZ IS NOT BEING
CARRIED OUT BY AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION; RATHER IT IS
A GOVERNMENT PROGRAM UNDER AUSPICES OF THE SECRETARIAT
OF LABOR WITH DR. JORGE BUSTAMANTE AS CONSULTANT, NOT
PROGRAM DIRECTOR.

8. CONCERNING MR. NIMETZ' REFERENCE TO THE JUNE BROOKINGS
INSTITUTE SEMINAR ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT, DR. BELSASSO CITED
THE LABOR SECRETARIAT'S COOPERATIVE PARTICIPATION IN
EARLIER MEETINGS ON THE UNDOCUMENTED WORKER QUESTION
ORGANIZED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AND THE COLEGIO DE
MEXICO. ONCE AGAIN, HE SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL
TO HAVE A MORE CAREFUL PROGRAMMING OF SUCH MEETINGS IN
ORDER TO AVOID DISPERSAL OF EFFORT. HE SAID THAT SEVERAL
UNIVERSITIES HAVE INDIVIDUALLY APPROACHED THE GOM EX-
PRESSING INTEREST IN RESEARCH OR MEETINGS ON THIS QUESTION.
SOME SORT OF MECHANISM FOR BETTER PLANNING OF OUR
EFFORTS IN THIS AREA WOULD BE MOST USEFUL.

9. REFERRING TO MR. EGAN'S REMARKS, LIC. SAMUEL ALVA LEYVA
EXPRESSED AGREEMENT THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR OFFICIALS
OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO MEET AND DISCUSS WAYS TO IMPROVE
JUDICIAL COOPERATION. HE CITED THE JANUS PROGRAM AS AN
EXAMPLE OF AN EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION IN DEALING
WITH NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS AND INDICATED THAT THIS KIND
OF COOPERATION COULD BE EXPANDED TO OTHER AREAS THROUGH
A NEW JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT.

10. IN RESPONSE TO THE OBSERVATIONS OF HIS MEXICAN COL-
LEAGUES, MR. NIMETZ NOTED THAT REPEATED REFERENCES TO THE
ACTIVE MIGRATION RESEARCH EFFORT BEING CONDUCTED ON BOTH
SIDES OF THE BORDER WAS PERHAPS AN IMPORTANT INDICATOR OF
THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE SINCE LAST YEAR, WHEN BOTH SIDES
AGREED THAT THERE WAS TOO LITTLE INFORMATION AND DATA
REGARDING THE MIGRATION PROBLEM. HE WELCOMED JOINT RECOG-
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NITION OF THE NEED FOR A MORE COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO DEVELOP
THE DATA BASE THAT WOULD ENABLE US TO HAVE A FIRMER FOUN-

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DATION FOR POLICY DECISIONS. AS FOR THE COLLATERAL MEASURES MENTIONED BY DRA. GONZALEZ, HE OBSERVED THAT THE ECONOMIC WORKING GROUP WOULD NO DOUBT BE DISCUSSING SOME OF THESE AND REAFFIRMED THE POSITION OF THE USG, WHICH IS TO OPPOSE GROWING PRESSURES FOR PROTECTIONISM. MR. NIMETZ ALSO RECALLED VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S STATEMENTS ABOUT WORLD BANK INTEREST IN FUNDING RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, AND SAID THE USG WOULD WELCOME THE GOM'S VIEWS IN THIS AREA. HE ALSO COMMENTED ON THE GOM'S INITIATIVE IN SETTING UP A NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT FUND WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT IN DEALING WITH THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF THE MIGRATION QUESTION. HE NOTED DR. BELSASSO'S COMMENTS ABOUT GOM SPONSORSHIP OF THE MEXICAN RESEARCH EFFORT AND CLARIFIED THAT THE INFORMATION CLEARING HOUSE HE HAD SUGGESTED WAS INTENDED TO GATHER INFORMATION FROM ALL SOURCES, NOT TO MONITOR MEXICAN RESEARCH IN ANY SUPERVISORY SENSE. COMMENTING THAT MIGRATION IS A WORLD-WIDE PHENOMENON RATHER THAN A "PROBLEM", MR. NIMETZ SAID IT
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WOULD BE USEFUL TO DEVELOP A MECHANISM TO COLLECT AND

DISSEMINATE ALL AVAILABLE DATA BECAUSE THIS WOULD REINFORCE A BINATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL APPROACH TO THIS COMPLEX QUESTION.

11. MR. HANSELL BRIEFLY SUMMARIZED THE CONGRESSIONAL STATUS OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM FOR UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS, NOTING THAT CONGRESS WOULD BE HOLDING HEARINGS OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS TO EXPLORE SOME OF THE ISSUES RAISED BY THE LEGISLATION SUBMITTED BY PRESIDENT CARTER.

12. AT THE END OF THE MEETING, IN ORDER TO FURTHER THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND RESEARCH ON THE UNDOCUMENTED QUESTION, UNDERSECRETARY ROSENZWEIG SAID THAT THE SECRETARIAT OF LABOR WOULD SERVE AS THE GOM'S OFFICIAL CHANNEL. MR. NIMETZ EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION AND SAID THAT THE USG WOULD CONSIDER THIS QUESTION AND INFORM THE GOM CONCERNING WHICH U.S. ORGANIZATION OR AGENCY COULD SERVE AS THE LABOR SECRETARIAT'S COUNTERPART FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND RESEARCH.

13. UNDERSECRETARY ROSENZWEIG EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR MR. NIMETZ' AND MR. HANSELL'S REMARKS, INDICATING THAT THE GOM IS AWARE THAT THERE ARE CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON THE UNDOCUMENTED ISSUE.

14. AGENDA ITEM (B), DISCUSSION OF STATUS OF NEW DRUG-ABUSE SUBGROUP (SEE MEXICO 7410 OF MAY 4).

15. AGENDA ITEM (C), BORDER COOPERATION. MR. NIMETZ INDICATED THE USG'S INTEREST IN MAKING FURTHER PROGRESS IN COOPERATIVELY DEALING WITH BORDER QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. HE BRIEFLY CITED THE EFFORTS OF THE SOUTHWEST BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION, HEADED BY CO-CHAIRMAN CRISTOBAL ALDRETE, AND THE CIUDAD JUAREZ-EL PASO MEETING IN NOVEMBER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1977 OF MRS. CARMEN ROMANO DE LOPEZ PORTILLO AND MRS. CARTER AS EXAMPLES OF OUR HEIGHTENED INTEREST IN THE BORDER. NOTING THAT IT IS INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO COORDINATE THE MANY PROGRAMS WHICH BOTH GOVERNMENTS HAVE IN THE BORDER AREA, HE SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO CREATE A SPECIAL BORDER SUBGROUP TO EXAMINE COMMON ISSUES IN SUCH AREAS AS TOURISM, HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION, ETC.

16. AT MR. NIMETZ' SUGGESTION, MR. ALDRETE THEN BRIEFLY MENTIONED RECENT ACTIVITIES OF HIS COMMISSION, SPECIFICALLY THE COMMISSION'S MEETING IN PHOENIX WHERE HE REPORTED ON COOPERATION WITH MEXICO'S NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BORDERS AND FREE ZONES, AND THE GUADALAJARA MEETING WHERE HE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS CULTURAL COOPERATION ALONG THE BORDER WITH MEXICAN REPRESENTATIVES OF FONAPAS. MR. ALDRETE STATED THAT HIS

COMMISSION IS INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH HIS MEXICAN COUNTERPARTS AT ALL LEVELS AND EMPHASIZED THE BENEFIT OF "A CLOSER WORKING RELATIONSHIP IN THE AREA OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT."

17. ROSENZWEIG OBSERVED THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE ROOM FOR POSITIVE ACTION IN THE AREA OF BORDER COOPERATION AND SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUBGROUP WHICH COULD EXAMINE THE VARIETY OF EXISTING ACTIVITIES ALONG THE BORDER AND SEEK TO AVOID DISPERSION OF EFFORT AND OVERLAPPING AUTHORITY BY DEALING WITH BORDER ISSUES IN A MORE ORDERLY MANNER.

18. HE THEN INTRODUCED UNDERSECRETARY MARIA EMILIA TELLEZ, WHO BRIEFLY OUTLINED THE INTEREST OF THE GOM AND MRS. LOPEZ PORTILLO IN PARTICULAR IN STUDYING AND DEVELOPING COOPERATIVE BORDER PROGRAMS IN THE CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL FIELDS (SEE THE JOINT REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM, SPECIFICALLY SECTION ON SOCIAL WORKING GROUP). SHE SAID THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BORDER SUBGROUP COULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN ORIENTING THE STUDY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES MENTIONED IN THE JOINT REPORT.
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19. LIC. CLEMENTE RUIZ BRIEFLY SUMMARIZED THE ROLE OF HIS

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SECRETARIAT IN COORDINATING MEXICAN BORDER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. WHILE NOTING THAT LIC. MANUEL AGUILERA, FORMERLY COORDINATOR OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BORDERS AND FREE ZONES, HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO A NEW POSITION, RUIZ EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOM WILL CONTINUE ITS COMMITMENT TO A MORE INSTITUTIONALIZED APPROACH TO THE BORDER AND WOULD STRONGLY SUPPORT CREATION OF A BORDER SUBGROUP WITHIN THE SOCIAL WORKING GROUP WHERE BOTH COUNTRIES COULD USEFULLY SIT DOWN AND DISCUSS COMMON BORDER QUESTIONS. HE REPORTED THAT HIS ORGANIZATION IS ESTABLISHING AN INFORMATION CENTER FOR BORDER AFFAIRS, WHICH HE INDICATED COULD BE HELPFUL TO BOTH COUNTRIES, AND HE PROMISED TO KEEP THE U.S. INFORMED ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY.

20. LIC. SAMUEL ALVA LEYVA BRIEFLY REVIEWED THE MEETINGS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE DURING THE PAST YEAR BETWEEN THE ATTORNEY GENERALS OF THE FOUR U.S. BORDER STATES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEXICAN BORDER STATES AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE IN MEXICO CITY. HE SAID THESE

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MEETINGS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO CLOSER PERSONAL CONTACT AND THE BETTER EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION.

21. ROSENZWEIG SUGGESTED THAT IN VIEW OF THE CONSENSUS FOR ESTABLISHING A NEW BORDER SUBGROUP, BOTH SIDES MIGHT WISH TO DETERMINE THE COMPOSITION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS AND EXCHANGE VIEWS REGARDING AN APPROPRIATE AGENDA. MR. NIMETZ AGREED AND SAID THAT WE WOULD INFORM THE GOM REGARDING THE COMPOSITION OF OUR DELEGATION AND OUR VIEWS CONCERNING AN AGENDA.

22. WITH REGARD TO HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS, UNDERSECRETARY HUMBERTO ROMERO ALVAREZ NOTED THE STATEMENT CONCERNING THESE FIELDS MADE IN THE JOINT REPORT OF THE CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM. HE NOTED THAT A SUBGROUP EXISTED AND THAT ITS WORK HAS PROCEEDED VERY FAVORABLY. THERE HAVE BEEN GOOD MEETINGS WITH EPA AND A MEETING IN MEXICO CITY IS BEING PLANNED FOR JUNE. IT HAD BEEN AGREED TO ESTABLISH PERIODIC MEETINGS OF U.S. AND MEXICAN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES.

23. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN TECHNICAL MEETINGS, INCLUDING ONE IN APRIL 1978 IN REYNOSA, AT WHICH EXPERTS FROM EPA, FDA AND USPHS PARTICIPATED. THIS WAS HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE AND RESOLVED ALL PROBLEMS WHICH AFFECTED THE TWO GROUPS. IT ALSO ESTABLISHED THE BASES FOR FUTURE STUDIES TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS DETECTED ON THE BORDER.

24. A DRAFT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN PREPARED BY EPA AND IS UNDER REVIEW ON THE MEXICAN SIDE, WHICH IS IN GREAT SYMPATHY WITH IT. IT WOULD ESTABLISH THE BASIS TO FORMALIZE SYSTEMATIC AND PERIODIC INTERCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND DATA. A COPY HAS BEEN SENT TO THE FOREIGN RELATIONS SECRETARIAT ALONG WITH COMMENTS OF THE HEALTH AND WELFARE SECRETARIAT.

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25. MR. NIMETZ NOTED THAT THERE WERE A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS ON BOTH SIDES AND THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS COULD EXERT LEVERAGE ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

26. MR. SIMCOX NOTED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION (IBWC) WAS A VALUABLE INSTRUMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ALONG THE COMMON BORDER, REFERRED TO THE STRONG SUPPORT THE IBWC RECEIVES FROM BOTH FOREIGN RELATIONS SECRETARIATS, AND STATED THE U.S. HOPE THAT IN FUTURE THE TWO SECRETARIATS WOULD RENEW THEIR COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE IBWC AT THEIR HIGHEST LEVEL. UNDERSECRETARY ROSENZWEIG AGREED COMPLETELY THAT THE IBWC WAS DOING A GOOD JOB AND MERITED THE FULL SUPPORT OF BOTH FOREIGN SECRETARIATS.

27. AGENDA ITEM (D), ARRANGEMENTS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION ON JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE TREATY. MR. NIMETZ ADDRESSED THE SUBJECT OF JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT. HE NOTED THAT THE MATTER WAS RAISED BY THE U.S. IN THE MEXICO CITY MEETING IN AUGUST 1977 AND THAT IN OCTOBER OF THAT YEAR AN INFORMAL PAPER DESCRIBING THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE GOM. HE THEN TURNED THE MATTER OVER TO THE DEPARTMENT'S LEGAL ADVISER, MR. HANSELL, WHO STATED THAT THE U.S. WOULD SUBMIT A DRAFT TREATY ON JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE GOM IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE INDICATED THAT THIS DRAFT WOULD CONTAIN THE USG'S SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN SUCH AN AGREEMENT. IN SUMMING UP, CHAIRMAN ROSENZWEIG INDICATED THAT THE GOM WOULD STUDY SUCH A TEXT WITH A VIEW TO SETTING NEGOTIATIONS IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE.

28. CONCLUSION. AT THE RESUMED PLENARY SESSION, HELD FROM 1:15 TO 1:45 P.M. AFTER THE SOCIAL WORKING GROUP ADJOURNED, UNDERSECRETARY ROSENZWEIG AND MR. NIMETZ REPORTED BRIEFLY TO THE PLENARY THE PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF DISCUSSION AND THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GROUP MEETING. THOMPSON

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Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780574/aaaackxo.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 744d30a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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SAS ID: 2736918
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING OF SOCIAL WORKING GROUP OF U.S.-MEXICO CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM
TAGS: PGOV, SNAR, SENV, MX, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/744d30a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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